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The Undergraduate.

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Editors' Table.

IN the death of Mrs. President Brainerd the students of Middlebury college have a deep loss. They feel that, together with them, graduates for the last twenty five years have felt glad to have come under her influence and to have recognized in her a sympathizer and friend. From graduates and undergraduates the President and his family have the warmest sympathy in their affliction.

"WELL begun is half done" and "All's well that ends well." According to these words, if one begins right, keeps on right, all must be right in the end. Before one takes up a new line of work or assumes a course of study for any profession it is well for him to make a practical examination of himself, to look at himself as others see him, as far as possible, and draw conclusions with an unbiassed and common-sense mind. Am I preparing myself thoroughly for my work in life? Have I any well-defined plan which I propose to follow? Have I any knowledge of the methods of great men and the lives, of those who have been successful in the lines that I have marked out as my future work? Such questions as these are in order for the student. The beginning and foundation count for much, and he who would make his mark and calling a pleasure and a source of advancement and profit to himself, must begin right, work hard, and do at least occasional thinking about such things. For any who are not yet in the habit of doing such things, it is a good time to begin at once.

A YOUNG man can safely make the venture of going through college without much money of his own if he is apt at his studies and not afraid of hard work; but the girl in America stands a poor chance to get through college unless she has money. A boy can work and gradually make his way along, after a manner, in a way which is denied the girl in the present condition of society. Furthermore much more valuable aid is given the young man in the way of endowments and scholarships than to the young woman. There are only eight universities and four colleges, and the Harvard "annex," where pecuniary aid is extended, to any great extent, to women students, and these are so set about by provisions that it is difficult for a poor girl, without some help, to bring them down to her needs. In England there are five colleges for women, where ninety-two scholarships, ranging in value from $175 to $420, are at their disposal, and provision is made by Girten and Newnham for loans on very easy terms. The time is near, or already here, when the American people are as proud of the American girl as of the American boy, and when society is as active to give opportunities to women whereby they can make the most of themselves as to men. It is through the cultivated women that our social life is invigorated and made better, and it is disadvantageous

to this society if the bright but poor girl is not given the same help in obtaining an education as her brother. It is coming to be a rule with us that wherever a need exists some one rises up to supply it. The higher education of women is so recent and the endowments and scholarships so graded, that the poor girl has hardly been considered thus far. Middlebury College needs endowments for the aid of young ladies who desire to come. If we have co-education we should endeavor to have it in its full sense, granting help to the young ladies and young men alike. Some, appreciating the state of affairs have recently made small endowments to the college for the benefit of the young ladies, but this is so small it cannot amount to a very wide range of usefulness unless it be largely added to. This matter should meet with the consideration of friends of the college, and any who are interested in the advancement of female education.

IT is a matter of interest, in a way, to consider at times the fate of New Year resolves; judging from personal experience and concurrent testimony up to this point, we can safely conclude a great many have already been broken. Because of the too common lot of such resolutions the advisability of making such resolves at all, is seriously questioned by many. Surely no serious harm can result from the act itself. Many who once break a resolve throw it entirely over board as though it were never made. A much better way is to be more careful about breaking it next time. For other things we are not wont to become discouraged and throw all overboard because of one mistake or failure, since we consider that failures teach how to avoid mistakes in the future. We should consider a failure or discouragement in the matter of a New Year's resolve much in the same philosophical or retrospective light as in any other matter. If they were thought about a little every day, they then would become a part of our daily lives and thus a matter of sure benefit and advancement to us.

IT may be observed that the college verse which from time to time appears in the UNDERGRADUATE, is generally clipped from other college publications. It is probable that local talent could, if once awakened, supply as good verse as that which is "clipped," and we would have the credit and satisfaction of being independent rather than parasitical in this respect. None of Middlebury's students would be ready to admit that they were not fully as well trained in all departments of literary work as those of any other college, and many would justly affirm that they receive better and more complete instruction in this department. Though we would not contend that efforts in this line would at first equal in quality the productions of our more practiced contemporaries, we would like to see much more of this material than has thus far come into our hands, and believe much would be found worthy of publication. We shall be glad to publish contributions of this nature in our next issue, believing it will be a stimulus to those affected and that better verse may follow. Let those of the students who ever had supposed poetical talent or have possible dormant faculty, invoke the Muse and give the UNDEGRADUATE the benefit of their efforts. This, we believe, would be more to our credit and be more eagerly sought by our readers than the matter which we at present are obliged to obtain from other sources.

IT was with much gratitude and pleasure that the announcement was heard, the first Saturday morning of the term, that a lecture course, "something informal and inexpensive, so arranged as not to intrude on recitations," as was spoken of in the last issue of the UNDERGRADUATE, would be given to the students during this winter term. Prof. Plehn will give talks upon practical, political and social topics of the day, each Saturday morning in the Chapel after rhetorical exercises. It will be readily seen by those who are not personally acquainted with our political science professor that these talks issue from the right source, coming as they do from a practical young man, who has given these subjects most thorough study and investigation. His efforts to thus promulgate further general knowledge regarding important and interesting affairs deserves the hearty commendation of everybody. None will fail to appreciate and improve all such opportunities so kindly extended to us by our faculty.

NOW that the time for beginning the training of our base ball team has come and we already are speculating on the prospects of the season, it must not be forgotten that the sympathy and assistance of every student is needed. It should be borne in mind that the Athletic association is a self-supporting concern and one of the most important contingents of the college. Money especially, and help of every

kind will be needed and every one should begin to plan to do better than ever before. It is time that the Athletic association of Middlebury college had a grand-stand upon its grounds; it is a need that can and ought to be met, as a business venture, if for nothing more. It would surely pay for itself in a few years by the increased numbers who would come to witness home games. If a few energetic individuals should take this project in hand and all students stand ready to help them in every way for what they could, we believed the desired end would be speedily accomplished. The alumni have aided much in times past in such things and will do more in the future; however, it must be remembered that it devolves apon the Athletic association to help itself would it gain or deserve the sympathy and support of its friends.

SOME talk of a Dramatic association has been heard from several of the upper-class men since the beginning of the college year. It would appear that if such an association is to be formed and any good work accomplished, it was high time its friends were getting down to business. It is not our purpose to discuss the merits of such an association, which even though it take some little time and attention from studies cou d not result in serious disadvantage, and if properly managed might prove a good thing for the members of the association and the college at large. No unworthy or unbusinesslike efforts, however, ought to be made in this direction, If an association is formed, it ought to be such as shall reflect only credit upon the college and aim at and achieve that which shall be worthy the name of a Middlebury College Dramatic association.

THE Glee Club has started successfully on another year, well backed financially, with good voices and musical training, and withal under favorable auspices. It has been hoped that by faithful practice and careful management, such as has been thus far given, it will prove the most beneficial year it has yet seen. The student body and faculty have shown their interest in the Glee Club. It only now remains for the members of the club to look to it that by their faithful work and general attainment they bring credit and honor to themselves and their college. It is much to the credit of the club that it is inspiring renewed interest among other students in the musical line and is having in view the Glee Club of '94, endeavoring to leave behind as far as lies in its power, a body of enthusiastic and well-trained singers.

Literary.

ENGLISH HISTORY.

DANIEL WEBSTER said: "Great Britain is a power to which, for purposes of foreign conquest and subjugation, Rome, in the height of her glory, is not to be compared; a power which has dotted over the surface of the whole globe with her possessions and military posts, whose morning drum-beat following the sun and keeping company with the hours, circles the earth with one continuous and unbroken strain of the martial airs of England." Her steamships sail the "universal seas." Her language is fast becoming the commercial, and will eventually be the literary language of the world. Her political genius is the source of the world's progress toward freedom, her literature greater than that of any other nation, and her history brilliant and stimulating. English history has a peculiar value to us, in that up to the middle of the last century it is our own history. Its heroes and poets are our ancestors, as truly as they are those of the English. Though there was a mixture of other races, it was the English that settled the colonies that revolted, and today it is said that we speak purer English than the English do themselves.

The above are good reasons why the student should look up English history, but there are still other claims on the American concerning this subject. The history of the two countries, during the colonial days especially, is so connected that we must examine the English as well as the American to fully understand it. Who that has not studied the history of England can understand the motives of the Puritans in landing on that bleak New England coast? Who that does not know of the war between New England and Holland can understand why New Amsterdam became New York? Who that has not read of the English Revolution of 1688, can understand the election and deposition of Leicester?

But if we examine the many petty wars between the English and French colonies, it will help us to understand English history. Land was not so scarce here in those days that the French and English must needs cut each other's throats for it. The trouble

began on the other side the water; began when Edward III. claimed to be rightful king of France; for the hatred engendered between the two nations by the hundred years' war still flamed fiercely. France, consolidated by the power of her king into a pure despotism, ruled by a Richelieu fond of glory and war, had been steadidly encroaching on the continent. Spain, Austria, Italy and Holland fed the covetous king with castles, fortified cities and rich pieces of territory. Luxemburg, Strasburg, Alsace and Lorraine became part of France. Every excuse was used by the king, Louis XIV., for increasing his territory. And, indeed, he probably might have attained to the rule of an universal empire, had it not been for one man, William of Orange. Holland, whose very existence was threatened by the ambition of the French king, formed league after league against him. At first she had no great general, but William became stadtholder and for twenty years he headed the allies against France. France was rich, strong and united, the other nations were jealous of each other, and England, strangely enough, was neutral. In 1688 the people of England rose against the tyranny of James and called William and his wife Mary to the throne. England then resumed her original position as holder of the balance of power and enemy of France James fled to his friend Louis, and Louis tried to put him back on his throne. The war thus begun extended across the Atlantic to America and became the King William's war we learn of in early American history.

Mary and William died without issue and Anne, sister of Mary and daughter of James, came to the throne. In the meantime the king of Spain died and left his throne to the grandson of Louis. This meant, it was thought, certain destruction to the balance of power, and Austria, England and Holland engaged in the "War of the Spanish Succession." Americans took up their respective sides in the quarrel and "Queen Anne's War" was the result. During the reign of George II. France, Prussia and Austria became engaged in the "War of the Austrian Succession." England again opposed her old enemy and "King George's War" harrassed the colonies for four years.

Frederick the Great's "Seven Years' War" drew England in again in defense of the balance of power and of course the colonies had a war, too, that known as the "French and Indian War." This latter alone of all the pre revolutionary wars would probably have occurred without its European adjunct. It gains much of its interest to the student of history from its European comparison and more from its relations to the politics of the mother country. Braddock's disastrous campaign was owing to the weakness of the English cabinet. Wolfe's success at Quebec sheds glory on the forceful administration of the elder Pitt, and the English success in that war was due to Lord Chatham. This thread, much after the same manner, may be followed down later to the "War of 1812" and to the Louisiana purchase, but we will ever find that the realms of history for England and America lie near together and may be explored together with much interest and profit.

"ROOT OR DIE."

[Chapel Oration.]

IN a newspaper of recent date appeared an item containing a few words worthy of our consideration. The note is headed as "Meeting of Associated Charities," and is chiefly of interest because one of the divines there present, the Rev. Brooke Hereford, rose and made use of the expression "root, hog, or die." Continuing a little, he said that he "had heard the phrase out West," and that it had at once taken his fancy, "because it was such a quaint expression of a very deep truth."

Now we may have no doubt that the gentleman mentioned had traveled in the West and can have no objections to his fancy having been pleased by the expression, but as to "the very deep truth" of which he speaks let us make investigation. If the application of his words is rightly reported and interpreted, we are to understand the speaker as one of those men who believes, as he says, "in good wholesome starving; that there are few people in the world who are neglected or unsuccessful unless they deserve it," and that the sufferings of poverty and misfortune can best be remedied by withholding assistance and thus forcing the unfortunate to "root" for themselves.

Far be it from any one of us to undervalue the uses of adversity. We can justly have no sympathy with the man so base as not to see some utility and meaning in the storm and stress that come to human lives. He is worthy only of our pity who looks upon pain and labor only as a curse and with languid eye pictures his career on earth as a life filled only with sordid gratifications and flaccid enjoyments. Human life is some-

thing more and better than an iridescent dream or fanciful vision and the men who have ever amounted to anything, or ever expect to, understand and appreciate this fact; there is hardly one of those whom the world delights to honor, who has attained to his position without some buffetings and wrestling with adverse circumstance; but because necessity and adversity have been attendant upon development and worthy attainment with some characters, are their stern mandates and teachings to be recommended for all? Far from it; in the realm of science we must consider, in arriving at conclusions, negative cases as well as positive. We must consider failures as well as successes would we rightly establish a law of progress and development for nation, class or individual. Where there has been one who has gained the point for which he strove there have been nine others who have striven and failed. Shall we say it has been because they had less of adversity?

Granting that adversity has made some strong men, let us consider, meanwhile, the number who have fallen in the struggle or come out of it, not toughened or strengthened, but physically and morally so crippled and maimed as never to recover. Then there is that large number who owe more of whatsoever happiness and success they have in life to the help and encouragement of fellow-beings than to anything else. How many thousand fewer young men and women does any one suppose would be taking advanced courses in education today were it not for the benevolence of public benefactors? What of the vast horde of human beings to whom, owing to circumstances of birth and surroundings, the barriers to a better life are well-nigh insurmountable? What of that throng, who, too often discouraged and disheartened, are trying "to break their births' invidious bar" and to gain better things than they have known? Are we to refuse to them the aid we might give and turning our backs upon them say, "Root for yourselves?"

The doctrine of leaving to their fate the poor, the needy and the unfortunate is altogether too harsh, selfish and unjust. Its theory put in practice kills more than it cures. A moderate amount of adversity, if properly masticated and assmilated, is undoubtedly a good thing, but the fact is that the great majority of mankind get enough of it in their daily life without having it prescribed and administered as a special diet. The world of today needs a spirit of charity and sympathy much more than more of that feeling which causes us too often to fold about us the mantle of selfishness and say to our less fortunate brother, "Root or die."

Personals.

[*The editor of this department appreciates the fact that it is one of special interest to the alumni. But as they are widely scattered and many are unknown to him, he asks them to send to the Undergraduate from time to time whatever items they may come in possession of and thus aid in making this department what the alumni desire it to be and what the editors endeavor to make it.*]

'29. Hon. Daniel Roberts of Burlington, Vt., delivered the address at the celebration of Forefathers' Day in Middlebury, December 21. The *Register* spoke of it as being an especially "scholarly, finely-written and interesting presentation of the subject." We quote the following extract from the latter part of his address: "America has shown great capacity in assimilating its heterogeneous population and bringing them to a common standard of American citizenship and manhood, less provincial, more cosmopolitan than the New Englanders of early days, and in many respects not the worse. It would, indeed, be a sad thing to be obliged to acknowledge that notwithstanding all the advances in science, in the arts of life, its industries and education and all the instrumentalities of civilization for two hundred years past, the American man has deteriorated or become alien to the principles of the first founders of our republic. Pessimism has no place in any scheme or effort to reform or improve society and raise the standard of manhood and citizenship to a higher plane of true and righteous living. Despair does not belong to American thought, but a great and inspiring hope, rather, revealing the grand outcome of the future in a reign of righteousness and peace, of law and of love. Such hopes are warranted by the law of development which prevails in society and government, as everywhere in nature from a lower to a higher and perfected type; and though sometimes there may be a downward movement and a seeming retrogression at some point in the cycloidal track of the wheel of progress, the net result is still an advance. The axis of the revolution is ever advancing along the plane of progress, the terminal point of the downward curve being even the starting-point for a new one moving upward and forward."

'38. George F. Ruggles of Aurora, Ill., is in poor health, being confined to his house.

'38. Storrs Hall, M. D., writes a pleasant letter from Rosendale, Wis. He is in his 79th year and yet is vigorous and attends to his daily practice.

'38. Dr. Byron Sunderland's church in Washington, D. C., has recently raised $140,000 for a new house of worship.

'39. Hiram Bingham died at Windham, Ohio, November 10, 1892.

'52. Dr. P. B. Goodsell of Boston, Mass., met with a very painful accident a few weeks ago. He was thrown from his carriage and had his shoulder dislocated and his arm broken. Dr. Goodsell is an alumnus who has been instrumental in sending students to Middlebury and has financially assisted others.

'59. William R. Shipman, professor of Rhetoric and English Literature in Tufts College, has an article concerning the late George W. Tilden in the December issue of the *Record* of Goddard Seminary.

'62. Aldace F. Walker, President of the Inter-State Commerce association, with headquarters at Chicago, has received an offer to become a member of a board to establish east-bound rates for the Trunk Line and Eastern Traffic association. His associates, if he accepts, will be Chairman Blanchard of the Central Traffic association and Chairman Goddard of the Trunk Line association. The function of the board will be to sit as a joint arbitrage committee for the two associations for the regulation of east-bound freight rates and the equitable division of traffic among the roads interested.

'62. Gov. Lyman E. Knapp of Alaska has submitted to the Department of the Interior his fourth annual report. It is a pamphlet of 72 pages and contains an account of official acts, the administration of government and laws, and the conditions, resources, industries, population, schools, public institutions and general progress of the territory.

'62. E. A. Hasseltine of Bristol has been re-appointed County School Examiner by Gov. Fuller.

'64. G. R. W. Scott, D. D., of Andover, Mass., gave two addresses at the meeting of the American society of Religious Philosophy, which met last month at Washington.

'69. Henry S. Baker, who has been principal of a school in St. Paul, Minn., since 1880, has an interesting article on "Secret Orders of the Past" in a recent issue of the Northwestern Odd Fellow *Review*.

'69. Charles F. Stone, who has practiced law at Laconia, N. H., since 1870 and who was the Democratic candidate for member of congress from the First congressional district of New Hampshire, came near to an election on the official count. He was defeated by only a slight majority by ex-Senator Henry W. Blair.

'75. C. M. Wilds, Esq., was one of the speakers at the banquet of the Commercial Travelers' association at Burlington recently. He spoke to the toast, "Our Neighbors."

'80. Henry R. Dorr of the banking firm of S. M. Dorr's Sons of Rutland, has been re-elected President of the Vermont Fish and Game league.

'81. Clarence James Harvey has published, in conjunction with the Marquise de Lanza, a successful novel whose title is "Scarabeus."

'81. Rev. J. L. Barton of Harpoot, Turkey, is in this country because of the poor health of his wife.

'83. Dr. James B. O'Neil of Portland, Me., spent a few days in Middlebury recently.

'84. Rev. James TenBroeke, Ph. D., of Panton, is regularly supplying the pulpit of the Baptist church at Burlington. Mr. TenBroeke has recently refused a professorship of Philosophy in Chicago University that he might be near or with his parents.

'88. H. W. Denio, member of Librarian Training school of New York State library, visited Middlebury during the holidays.

'89. Wm. F. Alden, who remains in the government employ at Washington, D. C., is the happy possessor of a son.

'90. John M. Thomas, who has been spending his vacation at his home in New Haven, has gone back to Union Theological seminary.

'90. E. B. Clift and wife of Oakfield, N. Y., were in Middlebury during the holiday vacation.

'90. Rev. Junius E. Mead was married to Miss Lillia A. White at Barton, Dec. 8, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Mead passed a week or so in Middlebury and then went to Conklingville, N. Y., at which place Mr. Mead is pastor of a Methodist church.

'91. Commenting upon the Teachers' institute held at Brighton, a suburb of Rochester, N. Y., the *Democrat and Chronicle* of that city says: "'Number Work' was ably treated by Prof. F. D. Boynton of Webster in three lectures. He is the instructor of the

Teachers' Normal Training class under the University of the State." On December 16 Mr. Boynton was elected President of the Monroe County Teachers' association, of which he was secretary last year. Mr. Boynton is also General Manager for Western New York of the National Summer School at Chicago, Ill.

'92. J. F. McNaboe has resigned his position as principal at Middletown Springs and has gone to New York to be treated for a throat difficulty.

'92. B. D. Colby, who is teaching school in Lincoln, visited friends at college during the Christmas vacation.

Town and Campus.

The winter term opened Jan. 5.

Hesselgrave '93 visited Boston during vacation.

Taylor '96 is teaching school at Middletown Springs.

Miss Ross '95 spent a part of her vacation in Boston.

Quite a large number of the boys are taking dancing lessons.

Sargent '94 and Grant '95 were on the sick list the first part of the term.

Grant '95 and Foster '96 took Christmas dinner with Rev. Mr. Heaxt.

On account of sickness Edgerton '96 did not return to college till Jan. 16.

Megathlin '93 and LaFleur '94 clerked in Marshall's store during Christmas week.

The old laboratory was remodeled during vacation into a convenient recitation room.

There has been some talk of heating the college buildings with steam another year.

Megathlin '93, Toleman '94, Grant '95 and Foster '96 remained in town through vacation.

E. R. Sturtevant '93 has been elected captain of the base-ball nine for the coming season.

Wilson '95 and Wasson '96 attended a social at East Middlebury Friday evening, Jan. 12.

Seeley '93, Chapman '94 and Sawyer '94 were some of the late ones in getting back to college.

Hasseltine '93 and Scott '95 went to Burlington on the evening of Jan. 14 to attend Carmencita.

The Freshman class picture was taken Dec. 13, but owing to an unsatisfactory proof it will not be printed.

Douglass '93 is superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School and Lamson '96 of the Baptist.

Pease and Owen of the class of '90 were in town for a few days the beginning of the term.

Merrill, '96 having met with an unwelcome but evident visitation from a member of the Grip family, went home Jan. 12.

Davis '96 has been appointed postmaster at Mendon, being one of the youngest postmasters in the United States.

Townshend '94 of Dartmouth, who is teaching school at Salisbury, called on Roscoe '96 and other of the students Dec. 17.

Mrs. E. B. Clift of Oakfield, N. Y., is in town for a few weeks and with her grandmother, Mrs. Seymour, who has been quite ill.

Leonard '95 has been holding a successful series of revival meetings at Ripton since Christmas; he returned to college Jan. 16.

Prof. and Mrs. Samuel Sheldon came up from Brooklyn and passed Christmas with Mr. Sheldon's mother, Mrs. M. B. Sheldon.

At a recent meeting of the members of the college boarding hall J. B. Donoway was re-elected treasurer and I. H. LaFleur commissary.

Prof. Boyce has divided the classes in Mechanics and Algebra, believing that better and more thorough work will thus be accomplished.

James TenBroeke, Ph. D., a graduate in the class of '84, took charge of Pres. Brainerd's classes in Philosophy during his absence from college.

The following students are this term boarding at Miss Comstock's: Hasseltine, Brown and Megathlin '93, Barlow and Wooster '95 and Roscoe '96.

Misses Susie Brewster and Mabel Bond, who were home for the holiday season, have gone back to Andover, Mass., to resume their studies at Abbott academy.

Candidates for the base-ball team have commenced work in the gymnasium. It is expected that Middlebury will send out the best team next season she has ever had.

Mr. George W. Cable, the well-known author and reader, gave a reading at the town hall on the evening of Jan. 18 under the auspices of the Epworth league of the Methodist church. A large and appreciative audience was present.

The Hawthorne club at a meeting at Mr. Rufus Wainwright's, recently, read Sheridan's "School for Scandal." Its next meeting, at Prof. Eaton's, will be largely occupied in reading "Cymbeline."

Rev. Dr. King, principal of the Fort Edward institute, was in town Jan. 6 and 7 as the guest of his daughter, Mrs. McGilton, wife of Prof. McGilton. He conducted chapel exercises on Saturday morning.

Brown '93 and Megathlin '93 were two of the four speakers at the union temperance meeting at the Baptist church; the former treated the subject from a social standpoint and the latter in its relation to development in church work.

The Junior hop given at the town hall Dec. 20 was well attended and was a thoroughly enjoyable affair. The Howard Opera House orchestra of Burlington furnished the music and the supper was served in the lower room of the building.

Miss Inez L. Robinson, teacher for several terms of the Second primary room at the graded school, has resigned and gone to her home in Calais, Washington county. Her successor is Miss Maude Comstock, who graduated from the High school last June.

Rev. A. W. Dickens, whom the Congregational church and society has unanimously called to i's pastorate, has accepted. He will enter upon his duties on Sunday, Feb. 19. He has been pastor of the Ticonderoga church for the past seven years.

Prof. and Mrs. Merriman were recently called here by the death of his mother, but have left again for the South. They will remain for a while in Baltimore and then will proceed to Florida to remain till spring. It is their intention to pass next summer in Middlebury.

The Senior class has chosen officers as follows: President, P. G. Ross; vice-president, Miss Emma Dorsey; treasurer and secretary, E. R. Sturtevant; historian, G. E. Cady; orator, J. B. Donoway; poet, E. R. Brown; prophet, Miss Susie Wilder; toastmasmaster, F. B. Wynne.

The Ladies' library entertainment at Mr. Beckwith's on the evening of Jan. 11 was a pleasant affair all around. The chief feature of the evening was Hon. J. W. Stewart's talk on his travels in Europe last Fall. Refreshments were served and there was singing by Dr. Sheldon and members from the glee club.

Former sojourners in this clime may be interested in knowing we have been having some cold weather in the vicinity of Middlebury; the inhabitants seem to have noted and appreciated the fact as it has continually manifested itself. The lowest known reliable record was made on the night of Jan. 11, when the thermometer lowered its record to 24 degrees below zero.

The College Glee Club has given with good success concerts at Cornwall, Vergennes and Castleton. The club is composed of the following members: C. B. Toleman '94 and E. M. Roscoe '96, 1st tenor; C. E. Hesselgrave '93 and H. H. Seeley '94, 2d tenor; G. L. Hasseltine '93 and H. E. Wells '94, 1st bass; E. L. Cushman '95, S. S. Eddy '94 and W. H. Eldridge '95, 2d bass.

It has been pretty definitely decided that the dates of the four lectures which Literary Editor Burton of the Hartford (Conn.) Courant is to give at the town hall, under the auspices of the college, will be Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 14 and 15, and Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 21 and 22. It is understood that his productions are marked by great felicity both of thought and expression, and that he will deal with modern English masters in prose and verse.

The "Journal of Education," a Boston publication, is soon to issue a memorial number devoted to the interest of a Leavitt scholarship for girls in Middlebury college. It will contain sketches of the college and of the lives and work of Mrs. Emma Wiliard and Mrs. H. F. Leavitt. The number will be of interest to all former pupils of Middlebury Female seminary, as well as to friends of female education. It is understood that free copies of the Journal will be sent to any address that is forwarded to Mrs. Anna L. Davison, 247 Warren street, Roxbury Dist., Boston, Mass.

The anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims was celebrated on the evening of Dec. 21 at the Congregational church, for the 50th consecutive year in Middlebury under the auspices of the Middlebury Historical society. The occasion was in every way worthy the event commemorated. The public exercises were in the main audience room of the church and were largely attended; Hon. John W. Stewart presided. Prof. Eaton made the invocation and read a portion of the 18th Psalm. The oration, by the Hon. Daniel Roberts of Burlington, was one of the best of recent years. After the exercises the usual supper was given in the vestry by the ladies of the church. The afterdinner proceedings began with singing by a quartet

composed of Dr. Sheldon and Messrs. F. B. Seeley, Parker Williamson and E. L. Cushman, who gave selections between the speaking, which was of the usual excellence. Prof. Wright talked about the West. He quoted from "Lochinvar" and the poets to show how in their opinion most good things came out of the West, but before he finished he showed that the West was only a slightly modified and a trifle livelier East.

THE FORUM.

At the suggestion of Professor Plehn and under his supervision, a half-dozen members of the Senior class met at his home on the evening of Jan. 13 and formed themselves into a society known as The Forum. The following constitution was adopted :

ART. I. The name of this organization shall be the Forum.

ART. II. The object shall be the study of all subjects connected with Political Science.

ART. IV. The officer of this club shall be a secretary.

ART. V. The secretary shall preside at all meetings of the club ; shall be custodian of all the documents and shall keep a record of all appointments and proceedings, and shall hold office for the year.

ART. III. Sec. 1. The active membership shall be confined to members of the Senior class specially interested in Political Science, and at the last meeting the members shall elect their successors from the incoming Senior class.

Sec. 2. All resident graduate members may be honorary members of the club, and have the privileges and be subject to the duties of active members.

ART. VI. The meetings shall be called by the secretary and shall be at least once in two weeks.

ART. VII. A copy of all articles presented to the club shall be kept on file by the secretary.

The next meeting will be Jan 27. E. R. Sturtevant will conduct the discussion and investigation of "Immigration." In a similar manner Seeley will have charge of "Co-operation," Feb. 10, and Donoway of "Communism," Feb. 24. Donoway is secretary of the society and meetings will be held with its different members unless otherwise appointed.

THE DEATH OF MRS. BRAINERD.

Mrs. Frances Rockwell Brainerd, wife of President Ezra Brainerd, died at the Mary Fletcher hospital in Burlington, Wednesday, Jan. 11. She was taken ill with an obscure nervous disease about the middle of November and was removed to the hospital for treatment the latter part of the same month, in the hope that constant medical attention and careful nursing might arrest the progress of the malady. She steadily failed, however, in spite of all that could be done.

The funeral services were held at the home on Seminary street, Saturday morning at 11 o'clock. They were conducted by Doctor W. S. Smart of Brandon, and were very largely attended. The following order was observed : 1, Chant, "De Profundis" ; 2, Scripture reading ; 3, Hymn, "Heaven is my Home" ; 4, Remarks ; 5, Prayer ; 6, Hymn, "Jerusalem the Golden" ; 7, Benediction. The music was rendered by Dr. W. H. Sheldon, F. B. Seeley, H. E. Wells and E. L. Cushman, Mrs. G. D. Miner acting as accompanist. There was a profusion of flowers, both loose and in set forms ; they were of exceptional beauty and peculiarly appropriate. The burial was in the west cemetery, the bearers being Professors Seely, Eaton and Wright, Messrs. Rufus Wainwright, T. M. Chapman and C. M. Wilds.

The news of Mrs. Brainerd's death, while not unexpected, was received with special sadness in college circles and throughout the entire community. Her nature was so sunny, her life so helpful and unselfish, that there were few among all her acquaintance who did not hold her in especial and sincere regard ; to those whose privilege it was to know her well, the memory of what she was will remain a cherished possession.

To widely scattered alumni this announcement will bring genuine sorrow. For nearly twenty-five years, Mrs. Brainerd has been, in the fullest sense, a centre of college social life, the joyous dispenser of a limitless hospitality. For those who return, as for us who are here, her death has removed from coming anniversaries a factor which has contributed in the times that are gone no small amount of their pleasure. And for all alike, for them and us, there is only left to offer the tribute of affectionate remembrance.

Exchanges.

The *University Herald* for December devotes a page to "Snow Fall," a song with words and music, and also has reproduced pictures of the Athletic team and Glee and Banjo club.

"The Three Magi" is the name of an interesting

and well-written eight-page Christmas story in the December *Polytechnic*. The Christmas editorial, speaking much of the Golden Yule tide and Grandfather Christmas, "who is everywhere and bids all be of good cheer," is also a well-developed and excellent affair.

The Christmas number of the *Cynic* came in a new and tasty dress. The number contains an interesting and valuable article on "The Pagan Origin of Christmas." Its closing paragraph says: "Thus we can say that the festival of Christmas is of Roman origin; that it probably grew out of the practice common to both Jew and Gentile of commemorating great historical and moral events by religious ceremonies, and that sometime in the fourth century the Christian church, desirous of turning the attention of its followers from the Pagan festival and to draw the Pagans from the Saturnalia, instituted the Christmas festival at the close of the year and gradually their usage to its own idea." The article in this same issue on "Vermont's Greatest Novelist," Daniel P. Thompson, a graduate of Middlebury in the class of 1820, is of special interest and worth to every Vermonter.

The Bates *Student* for December has a half-tone cut of the retiring board. The *Student* is ever considered one of the most worthy and well gotten-up of our exchanges. This issue has an excellent literary article on George Eliot, the opening lines of which say: "No one, even the most unsusceptible, can fail to receive impressions deep and lasting, from the perusal of anything from the pen of George Ellot. Her characters seem like living personages that have somehow come within our personal acquaintance, who have many or them touched our sympathies and aroused feeling as deep and real as the human beings that surround us. She holds up to us pictures of real life, fascinating, pathetic, ludicrous, that cannot tail to arouse broader sympathies, and a larger and more charitable view of life, whatever it may have been. No treatise on ethics, no separate abstract philosophy can deal more subtly and more powerfully with the laws that govern life, and their inevitable consequences than do her novels."

The Miami *Student* has an interesting article on "The Philosopher's Relation to Life." We find the author says in one place: "We may split the world up into two classes—those who philosophize and those who do not. What is the difference? This question can be answered in the simplest way by further describing these two classes as (1) those who reflect critically upon life and (2) those who do not. We begin to philosophize as soon as we ask ourselves reflectively what we mean by sometimes thinking that our life—this business of living decently—is, after all, a serious thing." In closing this number of the article the author says: "But perhaps it is too much to ask of the popular critics of a philosophical system that they understand what they are talking about. And so we leave them with Gray's familiar blessing":

To each his sufferings: all are men,
Condemned alike to groan;
The tender for another's pain,
Th' unfeeling for his own.
Yet, ah! why should they know their fate,
Since sorrow never comes too late,
And happiness too swiftly flies?
Thought would destroy their paradise!
No more; where ignorance is bliss,
'Tis folly to be wise.

We find the following in a report of a lecture in the *Ariel* of Jan. 14: "The debt which the students owe the world is two-fold: First, the debt of character, secondly that of service. Character is the best possession one can have. Service the best record to leave behind. In the Bible salt is frequently mentioned in illustration. It is a symbol of purity and health; it is a preservative force. Students, have salt in yourselves. The most fundamental element of character is the salt of sincerity. Do not lead double lives. A man leading a double life is like two steam engines running on parallel tracks for possession of the single track in the distance, into which the two converge. Both are apt to be smashed. The most important of all is the salt of religion. Now, there are two kinds of religion possible, the right and the wrong. The one whose only thought is of self, or how he may increase his possessions without increasing his rites has the wrong kind. The right religion is that of universal sympathy. Let your lives be such that they may become a highway over which many of your fellow men may pass to higher phases of living."

Mr. Sherman S. Rogers, in his paper on George William Curtis in the January *Atlantic*, describes his devotion to the cause of civil service reform: "The amount of labor Mr. Curtis gave to this work from first to last is surprising. His annual and occasional addresses and his editorials on the subject would fill volumes. He was president of the leading local association, that of New York, and also president of the National League, and every important detail of the

reform movement was under his inspection. That which always struck me as his strongest mental characteristic was his common sense. His judgment was almost unerring, and his tact was marvelous. His mind seemed never closed to a new suggestion. If it had force, he recognized it immediately; if not, he put it aside with such gentle but conclusive refutation that its author was almost glad not to have it accepted. High as was the standard of his own thinking and living, he was of all men the least censorious. Easily superior in mental gifts and accomplishments, in that personal attractiveness which is the genius of charac ter, he never showed that he was conscious of it. His associates in the League felt that he was the natural leader; but among them, while most effetively leading, he seemed to be only the most hearty and generous of comrades."

The *Campus* of Jan 11 comes to us as a "Poetry of To-day and To-morrow" number, and is in every way highly creditable to the extra work put upon it by its editors. Mr. Joseph O'Connor in an article, "The Prospects of Poetry," in accounting for the low ebb at which it now is, says: "An era of selfishness is apt to follow an era of self-sacrifice; and in this country we are in a state of reaction after the enthusiasm, the effort and the dreams of the civil war period. It is no longer every man for humanity, but every man for himself. Our splendid advance in material wealth has tempted the people more than ever into the struggle for fortune and the supreme good. We are nearly all more eager for luxurious living than for high thinking. Pleasure has become greater in our eyes than duty." However, he thinks better times may be coming, for he says in closing: "My conclusion is that there are no poets "in sight," as the market-report phrase runs, and little prospect of a supply of good poetry. But while it is certain that great poets do not come often, it is never safe to predict that they will not come. One may arise at any moment, if in no other way, then as the prophet of change. I know that I am weary of flippancy in literature, of cynicism in morals and religion, and of materialism in daily life, and I find the same sense of weariness in many of my friends. It is this tendency to reaction in the individual that presages general reaction, so that the coming generation may be as poetical as this is unpoetical."

Marietta College *Olio* for December comes as an Inaugural number, containing a portrait of President John Wilson Simpson and full account of his inauguration and addresses on the same occasion. The inauguraral, "The College, Its Hindrances, Mission and Equipment," is a masterful affair. We note the following in his speaking of "the college as an institution of higher learning": "The potency of the college's influence in this country will never cease to be felt and acknowledged, by those who possess intellectual power, who delight in the supremacy of mind over matter, who are attracted by mental superiority, who have an instinct for the beau tiful and good, who swim in a current of ideas as naturally as birds fly in the air, or fishes swim in the sea. There can be no denying the fact that the college has powerfully stimulated the human mind in every direction, has awakened and developed within us a deep and many-sided sympathy with nature, has brought us into the possession of the best in the past, and has thus enriched us with a wealth we can never sufficiently esteem. The college has broadened and clarified our conception of life and its possibilities, and taught us how to apply to ourselves, however lowly and uncongenial our surroundings, the best thoughts and noblest deeds which have ever sprung from the brain and heart of man. It has helped to make us lovers of wisdom in its fullness and symmetry. It has awakened a taste for every kind of knowledge. It has made us so curious to learn that we are never satisfied. It has imparted magnificence to the mind, and aided us in developing a gracious and well proportioned intellect, that leads us spontaneously to search after the reality and truth of things."

College Notes.

Williams college has its library open on Sunday.

Leland Stanford has established a professorship in Pacific Coast History.

A daily paper, the *News*, has been started at the University of Chicago.

Cornell will offer a course in Russian language and literature in the near future.

Auburn Theological Seminary has recently laid the corner stone of a $70,000 building.

One sixteenth of the 65,000 students in American colleges and universities are studying for the ministry.

There will be a convention of the classes of '93

from all American colleges at the World's Fair at Chicago.

At the University of Chicago on public occasions both faculty and students will be required to wear cap and gown.

Harvard was the first of the American colleges to open a graduate school. The first degree of Doctor was given in 1873.

The Russian imperial government has granted $200,000 for a medical school for women, to be established in St. Petersburg.

Harvard has inaugurated a new era in the world of college literature by the production of its new periodical, the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine*.

The faculty of Wesleyan has announced that no student who has failed to pass his last examination and is conditioned, will be allowed to hold a position on any of the athletic clubs or take part in any of the contests.

The University of Minnesota has adopted a plan of electing speakers for Commencement. There will be a series of oratorical contests during the Senior year, and the ten having the highest standings in these represent the class on Commencement day.

The University of Nebraska is reported to have abolished the time-honored names Senior, Junior, Sophomore and Freshman. In the future no distinction will be made in nomenclature, save in the Freshman year, which will be known as the "first year of residence."

Senates, composed of representatives of the different college classes in conjunction with the faculty, are receiving considerable attention. The latest one organized is at Denver University. The plan of the organization is to bring faculty and students into closer relationship, and it also sits as a tribunal of justice over cases of dispute between faculty and students, its action always subject to the veto of the President of the college. The plan is meeting with good success wherever tried.

The clipping which follows is taken from the *Pennsylvanian*. It is interesting, showing as it does, the attitude that many colleges are taking in regard to the recognized student publications: "The faculty have determined that men who have taken honors during Freshman and Sophomore years in English, and who are elected to positions on the recognized papers of the University, may be excused from certain work of the English department which the professor and instructors of the department may name, on condition that an equivalent amount and quality of work be done for these papers and the department be advised of the work thus done."

It may be interesting to note that among the many educational institutions and phases of educational methods and life to be exhibited at "the World's Columbian Exposition," is the display of the Greek Letter Societies. The committee in charge has procured a space of forty-six feet in length and nineteen feet in depth, in the largest building at the Exposition, that of manufactures and liberal arts, where a large and interesting exhibit will be made. The display will consist of an enlarged reproduction of the badge, the catalogues, song books, magazines, flags, banners, coats of arms, pictures of chapter houses, escutcheons and whatsoever of interest to each individual fraternity in showing the past history and present status. Besides this a union congress has been arranged for, under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary, where questions of importance to these organizations can be considered and discussed by their ablest and most prominent representatives. It is estimated that about ten thousand fraternity men will be in attendance at this congress.

Quite a radical change in the shape of the base-ball diamond has been suggested in the National league by a man from Rolla, Missouri. It provides for a home base and four additional bases, instead of three as now. This extra base would not, however, necessitate another infielder, but short stop would probably play that base, which would probably be called third base, while the present third would become fourth baseman. First and fourth bases would be about ten feet farther out than the present foul lines, thus increasing the area for fair balls and lessening the number of fouls. This arrangement would obviate the slight difficulty which the catcher now has in seeing second base while the pitcher is in the box and the umpire by the side of the pitcher. It would also make the batting more lively than at present by enlarging the infield. The distance from home to first base and from fourth base to home plate would still be ninety feet, while that from second base to third and from third to fourth would be but seventy feet. By this change the catcher's throwing distance is decreased by about eight feet, and he is in a better position to throw. It has

been suggested that the enlarged area of the outfield will make desirable four outfielders; and with the change to ten men on a team, ten innings might constitute a game without making a game too long, considering the time it now takes to play nine innings.

The Wellesley Shakespeare Society intends to build a club-house on the model of Shakespeare's house at Stratford-on-Avon.

It is a noticeable fact that, since its foundation in 1701, nearly two hundred years ago, Yale College has had but twelve presidents.

The Smith College pin which Seniors only are allowed to wear, is a small gold diamond, upon which are inscribed the letters S. C., in white enamel.

Prof. Albert Harkness of Brown University has resigned the professorship of Greek at that institution. He has held the position for thirty-seven years."

The Princeton-Yale debate will take place on March 15. There will be three speakers from each college, each one of these to speak twice, the speeches to be ten and six minutes in length.

John D. Rockefeller made the Chicago University a Christmas present of one million dollars. This makes three million six hundred thousand dollars he has given and the total endowment of the University is $6,500,000, including land and buiidings.

Middlebury College, of which Dr. Ezra Brainerd is the eighth president, is closing under conditions of great promise the first century of its work. Chartered in 1800, it includes in its list of alumni an exceptionally large proportion of notables. About 40 per cent of its graduates have been ministers of the gospel in home and foreign fields, while it points to distinguished representatives in the departments of political education, law and letters. Silas Wright, Truman Post, John G. Saxe, Henry Hudson, Edward J. Phelps, Aldace F. Walker, Senator George Z. Erwin, Julius Grinnell (of Anarchist celebrity), are specimen types of the past and present "Middlebury man."—*Mail and Express.*

The University *Herald* presents the following soliloquy:

IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ICY SIDEWALK.

To start or not to start, that is the question;
Whether 'tis nobler here to stay and totter
And stick my heels into this friendly crevice,
Or to strike out across the glassy pavement
Perchance to land in safety; to start, to land
All right side up, it is a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To start, to slip,
To hurl some strange gymnastics through the air,
And then a sudden bump! Ay, there's the rub,—
A rub with liniments and St. Jacob's Oil,—
Ah, no, I'll let the mortal coil alone,
And I will do no shuffling now at all,
But rather take a sitting posture and
Slide gently to the margin, if no snag
Shall give me pause.

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